

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2014**

The bi-monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, April 28, 2014, in the cafeteria of Mt. Hope High School, 199 Chestnut Street, Bristol, RI. Chairman Silva called the meeting to order at approximately 7:03 PM.

Present: Paul Silva, Chairman; John Bento, Vice-Chairman; Karen Lynch, Secretary; Susan Rancourt, Treasurer; Diana Campbell, Marjorie McBride, William O'Dell, John Saviano, Lynn Wainwright, Melinda L. Thies, Superintendent; Mario Andrade, Assistant Superintendent; Pauline A. Silva, Director of Administration and Finance; Mary N. Almeida, Director of Literacy and Title I; Leslie Anderson, Director of Pupil Services and Andrew Henneous, Esq., District Solicitor

OPENING BUSINESS

All present were invited to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pursuant to Open Meeting Laws 42-46-5 (a)(1) for the following:

- 1. Personnel Recommendations #S2014-21**
- 2. Middle School Principal – Single Year Contract Renewal**

Recommendation

MOTION: At 7:04 p.m., Mrs. Lynch made a motion to enter into executive session; seconded by Mrs. Rancourt. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: At 7:26 p.m., Mrs. Campbell made a motion to adjourn executive session; seconded by Mr. Saviano. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Silva stated, for the record, that the purpose of the executive session was to receive legal advice concerning a personnel matter. No action was taken.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES

Chairman Silva stated that all items listed on the consent agenda are considered routine by the School Committee and are enacted in one motion. There is no separate discussion of Consent Agenda items unless requested by a committee member, in which case the item(s) are withdrawn from the general order of business and considered in the normal sequence of the agenda. There were no requests received by Chairman Silva to remove items from the Consent Agenda.

MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Mrs. Campbell. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to seal the executive session minutes of the March 24, 2014 and April 14, 2014 School Committee meetings; seconded by Mr. Saviano. The motion passed unanimously.

S2014-21 A-D: CONSENT AGENDA - PERSONNEL

A. KINDERGARTEN SCREENING TEACHERS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following individuals as Kindergarten Screening Teachers for the 2013-14 school year only:

Name

- 1. Anna Burnham**
- 2. Elizabeth O'Connell**

B. CERTIFIED SUBSTITUTES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to place on file in the office of the Superintendent the following applications for certified substitutes pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements:

CERTIFIED

Name Area/Level

1. Rachel D. Rogers General Subject Matter

2. Michael J. Rosa General Subject Matter

C. CLASSIFIED SUBSTITUTES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to place on file in the office of the Superintendent the following application for a classified substitute pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements:

SECRETARIAL

1. Emily G. Andrade

D. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignations of Gaetano M. Murgo from the position of Secondary Assistant Principal and Lynn-Ann Palmieri from the position of Middle School Head Cheerleading Coach as listed below:

1. Gaetano M. Murgio Assistant Principal – Mt. Hope High

Effective: June 30, 2014

Reason: Retirement

**2. Lynn-Ann Palmieri Head Cheerleading Coach –
Kickemuit Middle**

Effective: End of 2013-14 Season

Reason: Personal

Mrs. Thies announced the retirement of Mt. Hope High School's Assistant Principal, Mr. Gaetano Murgio, highlighting his accomplishments while serving at the Bristol Warren Schools. On behalf of the School Committee, Chairman Silva wished Mr. Murgio well.

Mr. Silva announced the retirement of the Kickemuit Middle School's Head Cheerleading Coach, Ms. Lynn-Ann Palmieri, highlighting her accomplishments while serving at the Bristol Warren Schools. Mrs. Thies praised Ms. Palmieri's impressive commitment to her teams.

RECOMMENDATION #S2014-22

That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the

Superintendent, approve renewal of the Middle School Principal Single-Year Contract.

MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to approve the Middle School Principal Single-Year Contract; seconded by Mr. Saviano. The motion passed with a 7-1 vote; Mrs. Lynch dissenting.

RECOMMENDATION #S2014-23

That the School Committee accept the resignation/retirement of the Superintendent effective June 30, 2014.

MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to accept the resignation/retirement of the Superintendent; seconded by Mrs. Campbell. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Silva highlighted Mrs. Thies accomplishments praising her leadership style and the relationships she forged with the School Committee, Staff and public.

Mrs. Thies shared that it has been her honor and privilege to serve as Superintendent of the Bristol Warren Schools. She shared praises for the strong Administration team and her deep regard for certified staff and teachers. Mrs. Thies closed by stating how proud she is of the District.

RECOMMENDATION #S2014-24

That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee, approve the second reading of the Graduation Requirements Policy (IKF)

MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to approve the second reading of the Graduation Requirements Policy (IKF); seconded by Mrs. Campbell. The motion passed unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION #S2014-25

That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee, approve the first reading of the Textbook Selection and Adoption Policy (IIAA).

MOTION: Mrs. Campbell made a motion to approve the first reading of the Textbook Selection and Adoption Policy (IIAA); seconded by Mrs. Wainwright. The motion passed unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION #S2014-26

That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee, approve the Prom Pilot Policy.

MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to approve the Prom Pilot Policy; seconded by Mrs. Wainwright.

DISCUSSION: Chairman Silva stated that the Prom Pilot Policy would allow early dismissal for students on the day of the prom based on good disciplinary standing.

Mrs. Campbell clarified that the policy related early dismissal on the day of the prom will be launched as a pilot for this year only. The intent of the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee is to review the Prom Day Policy further in September of the 2014-2015 academic year adding more stringent requirements of academic standing and academic eligibility. The Prom Day Policy will be framed as a privilege earned by students.

The motion passed with a 6-2 vote; Mrs. McBride and Mrs. Rancourt dissenting.

RECOMMENDATION #S2014-27:

That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the 2014-2015 Academic Year Calendar.

MOTION: Mr. O'Dell made a motion to approve the 2014-2015 Academic Year Calendar; seconded by Mrs. McBride.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Michelle DaSilva, BWEA co-president, shared several concerns related to the elimination of the February break from the 2014-2015 Academic Year Calendar. Several School Committee

members agreed with those concerns.

Chairman Silva requested that the proposed 2014-2015 Academic Year Calendar be modified by moving the Professional Development Day currently slated for February 20th to February 17th allowing for a four day weekend.

MOTION: Mrs. Lynch made a motion to change the February 20th Professional Development Day to February 17th; seconded by Mr. Saviano.

The motion passed with a 7-1 vote; Mrs. McBride dissenting.

A general consensus was reached to delay removing the February break from the 2014-2015 Bristol Warren Academic Year Calendar. This modification will be re-visited once it is implemented statewide for the 2015-2016 Academic Year.

The motion to accept the 2014-2015 Academic Year Calendar, as amended, failed to pass with a 1-7 vote; Mr. Bento, Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Lynch, Mrs. McBride, Mr. O'Dell, Mr. Saviano and Mrs. Wainwright dissenting.

SUBCOMMITTEE/SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS AND INITIATIVES

Budget/Facilities Subcommittee

Mrs. Rancourt reported that the next meeting of the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee is scheduled for Monday, May 19th when the FY15 budget will be discussed.

Policy Subcommittee

Mr. O'Dell reported that textbooks being proposed for adoption are available for review by the School Committee through Dr. Andrade's office. These textbooks will come before the full committee for a vote at the May business meeting.

Personnel/Contract Negotiations Subcommittee

Chairman Silva reported that the BWEA negotiations are proceeding in a cordial fashion.

Wellness Sub-Committee

Mrs. Wainwright reported that Wellness Week is underway at the Bristol Warren schools. She reported that the ACES (All Children Exercising Simultaneously) will take place on Thursday, May 8th at Guiteras School.

Susan R. promoted the BWEF Food Truck 5K kid's race which will be held on Saturday, May 10th.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (8:13 p.m.)

Pursuant to Open Meeting Laws 42-46-5 (a)(2) for the following

1. The Town of Warren vs. The BWRSD Litigation – legal advice.

Chairman Silva stated, for the record, that no action would be taken during the executive session, and the Committee would merely be reconvening to adjourn the open session.

MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 8:13 p.m.; seconded by Mrs. Wainwright. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mrs. Campbell made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session at 8:30 p.m.; seconded by Mrs. McBride. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT – 8:31 PM

MOTION: There being no further business to discuss, Mrs. Campbell motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 PM; seconded by Mrs. Rancourt. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Lynch, Secretary

/kd